



**MAGNUSON, Roy Josiah [R]**—(Dist. No. 38, *Spartanburg Co.*)—Educator & Businessman; residing in Campobello; *b.* Aug. 17, 1991 in Greenville; *s.* Roy G. and Valerie J. Magnuson; attended Oak Brook Coll. of Law, 2010–13; single; Project Mgr., Detail Solar Technologies; Pres., The Virtue Solution, LLC; Independent History & Science Tutor; Founder, Soldiers of Biblical Reformation, 2007–; Asst. Scoutmaster, BSA Troop 73, 2009; Dir., Americans for Constitutional Govt., 2012–17; State Bd. Rep. Liberty Caucus of S.C., 2013; Treas. & Lecturer, Constitution Study Group of Spartanburg, 2015–; mem., Kingdom Baptist Church.



**MARTIN, Richard Ansel, Jr. “Rick” [R]**—(Dist. No. 40, *Newberry Co.*)—Pres., Debrick Corp. (Bulldog Battery of Newberry); residing at 9307 S.C. Hwy. 34, Newberry; *b.* Oct. 13, 1967 in Newberry; *s.* Richard A., Sr. and the late Marie Martin; *g.* Mid-Carolina High School; May 21, 1989 *m.* Frances Diane Martin, 4 children, Jessica, Breanna, Spirit, and Madison; foster parent, 2010–; Pres., Debrick Corp., 2000–; Ruling Elder, Cannon’s Creek A.R.P. Church, Prosperity, 1998–.



**McCOY, Peter M., Jr. [R]**—(Dist. No. 115, *Charleston Co.*)—Atty., McCoy & Stokes, LLC; residing at 667 Shortwood St., Charleston; *b.* Aug. 20, 1978 in Charleston; *s.* Peter M. and Lucy Coleman McCoy; *g.* Hampden-Sydney Coll., B.A., 2001; Regent Univ., J.D., 2005; June 19, 2010 *m.* Jennifer Blanchard, 3 children, Mae Loflin, Lucy Davis, and Peter M. III; Asst. Solicitor, Charleston Co., 2005–10; Exec. Bd., Charleston Lawyers Club, 2007–11; licensed to practice in Fed. Dist. Court of S.C. and Fed. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals; awarded the Key to James Island; Adv. Bd. for Save the Morris Island Lighthouse; mem.: Folly Beach Civic Club; James Island Exchange Club; Jt. Legis. Screening

Com. for Colls. & Univs.; Chm., Family Law & Probate Subcom., 2013–14; named S.C. Rising Star by S.C. Super Lawyers, 2013, 2014, 2015; 2014 recipient of Charleston Regional Bus. Journal's Forty under 40; Chm., Gen. Law Subcom., 2015–; Children's Hosp. S.C. Legislator of the Year, 2014; Martindale Hubbell A.V. preeminent voting, 2013, 2014, 2015; Tour of James Island Merit Award, 2015; mem., Grace Episcopal Church; prev. serv. in House 2011–16.

**McCRAVY, John R. III** [R]—(Dist. No. 13, *Greenwood Co.*)—Atty.; residing at 913 Johns Creek Rd., Hodges; *b.* Sept. 6, 1958 in Maryland; *s.* John R., Jr. and Margaret B. McCravy; *g.* Clemson Univ., B.A., 1982; Univ. of S.C., J.D., 1985; 1980 *m.* Dana Shaw, 2 children, John R. IV and Kelly, 2 grandchildren; Law Clerk, S.C. Atty. Gen. Off., 1983–84; Law Clerk, U.S. Atty. Off., 1984–85; Staff Atty., Supreme Court of S.C., 1985–87; Atty., Callison, Dorn, Thomason, Garrett and McCravy Law Firm, P.A., 1988–95; Bd. mem., Supreme Court of S.C. Bd. of Comm. on Grievances and Discipline, 1991–96; City Atty., City of Greenwood, 1995–04; Atty., McCravy, Newlon and Sturkie Law Firm, P.A., 1995–; mem.: S.C. Bar Assn., 1985–; admitted in all S.C. state courts, Fed. Dist. Court, Dist. of S.C., Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1985–; Fed. Bar Assn., 2015–; Bd. certified, Natl. Bd. of Trial Advocacy, 2001–; M. Mason, Certificate of Proficiency, 25 Year Pin & Life mem., Clemson Lodge #254; mem., Bd. of Dirs., Greater Greenwood United Ministry, Pres., 1995–00, mem., 2010–; mem., Prog. Review Team, Abbeville Baptist Assn., 1998–01; Bd. of Dirs., Greenwood Christian School, Chm., 1999–08, mem., 2012–15; Adv. Bd., Crossroads Pregnancy Center, 1999–; Adv. Bd., Volunteers in Med. Missions, 2001–; Adv. Bd., Lander School of Bus. Mgmt., 2016–; NRA Life mem.; Volunteer Award, Piedmont Ag. on Aging, 1989; Contributing Author, “Appeals” section of S.C. Jurisprudence, 1993; Adjunct Faculty, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Piedmont Tech. Coll., 1988; Adjunct Faculty, Lander Univ., Constitutional Law, Commercial Law, 2012, 2016–; Course Instructor, S.C. Bar Legal Lessons, Workers’ Compensation, 2013–, Greenwood Co.; Volunteer Award,



DSS, 1992; Dixie Youth Baseball coach, 1990–99; mem., Men's Ministry & Elder, Calvary Chapel of Greenwood.



**McEACHERN, Joseph A. "Joe"** [D]—(Dist. No. 77, *Richland Co.*)—Real Estate Broker; residing in Columbia; *b.* Apr. 10 in Dillon; *s.* the late Lawrence and the late Gilbertine McEachern; attended Furman Univ. and Columbia Intl. Univ., majoring in Political Science and Christian Educ. respectively; June 21 *m.* Penny Smith, 2 children, Joseph II and Aaron; former Richland Co.

Sheriff Dep.; former mem.: Bd. of Dirs., Central Midlands Council of Govts., S.C. Central Carolina Econ. Alliance; Regional Transportation Authority; S.C. Assn. of Counties Legis. Com.; Student Adv. Com. of Cyril Busbee, State Dept. of Educ. and Gov. John C. West, 1972–73; Richland Co. Council, 1997–08, Chm., 2002, 2007–08; Living the Legacy Award, Zion Chapel Baptist Church; Living the Legacy Award, the Natl. Council of Negro Women; founding mem., Blythewood Chamber of Commerce; Pres. & CEO, Blythewood Facilities Corp.; Southeastern Women in Politics Adv. Com.; mem.: Agric., Natural Resources & Environmental Affairs Com., 2009–12; Invitations Com.; apptd. to Workforce Review Com.; Dept. of Employment & Workforce Oversight Com.; Labor, Commerce & Industry Com., 2014–; Dir., Christian Educ., Ridgewood Baptist Church; Major, Civil Air Patrol; prev. serv. in House 2009–16.



**McKNIGHT, Cezar E.** [D]—(Dist. No. 101, *Clarendon-Williamsburg Cos.*)—Atty.; residing in Kingstree; *b.* Dec. 10, 1973 in Kingstree; *s.* Edward and Ruby McKnight; *g.* Morris Brown Coll., B.A., 1996; Florida Coastal School of Law, J.D., 2001; *m.* Kawanna Brayboy, 1 child, Claire Elizabeth; Gideon Lodge #428, Andrews, P.H.A.; P.K. Gadegboku Chap. #440, Kingstree;

King Solomon Consistory #330, Kingstree; Crescent Temple #180 A.E.A.O.N.M.S., Florence; Kappa Alpha Psi Frat., Inc.; S.C. Trial Lawyers Assn.; Black Lawyers Assn.; S.C. Assn. of the Criminal Defense Lawyers, Williamsburg Co. Bar;

Florence Co. Bar; James E. Clyburn Fellow; mem., Bethesda United Methodist Church, Lake City; mil. serv.: USA Reserves, 1991–98; prev. serv. in House 2015–16.

**MERRILL, James “Jim” [R]**—(Dist. No. 99, *Berkeley-Charleston Cos.*)—Public Relations & Marketing Consultant, Geechee Communications; residing at 2401 Daniel Island Dr., Daniel Island; *b.* Jan. 15, 1967 in Pensacola, Fla.; *s.* James H. and Annette McGregor Merrill; *g.* Univ. of S.C., B.A., 1989, M.P.A., 1992; Aug. 29, 1992 *m.* Noel Marie Gaillard, 3 children, Delaney Marie, Haley McGregor, and Darby Lee; Press Secy. for Congressman Floyd Spence, 1989–92; Political Dir., S.C. Rep. Party, 1992–94; Dist. Admin. for Congressman Mark Sanford, 1994; Owner, Geechee Communications, 1994–; mem., Univ. of S.C. Alumni Assn.; past Pres., Sigma Chi Frat; S.C. Policy Council; Berkeley Co. Rep. Party; Whip, Majority Caucus; Fin. Com., Majority Leader, 2004–; Univ. of S.C. Gamecock Club; Daniel Island Neighborhood Assn.; mem., Stella Maris Catholic Church; prev. serv. in House 2001–16.



**MITCHELL, Harold, Jr. [D]**—(Dist. No. 31, *Spartanburg Co.*)—Exec. Dir., ReGenesis Comm. Dev. Corp.; residing at 412 Shaw Ave., Spartanburg; *b.* June 3, 1965 in Spartanburg; *s.* Margaret Duckett Mitchell and the late Harold Mitchell, Sr.; attended S.C. State Univ., 1984–85; Univ. of S.C., 1985–88; attending Dominion Bible Coll.; Aug. 13, 1988 *m.* Wanda Dawkins Mitchell, 3 children, David Benjamin, Elizabeth Ann, and Hannah Grace; former mem.: EPA, Natl. Environmental Justice Adv. Council; BMW Comm. Adv. Council; State Competitive Initiative Task Force on Distress Com.; former mem., Bd. of Govs., Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce; Affordable Housing Coalition, S.C. Legislator of the Year, 2007; Housing Fin. Authority Housing Achievement Award, 2008; mem., Clinton Global Initiative, 2009–16; Home Builders Hammer and Trowel Award, 2009; S.C. Educ. Assn. Retired Outstanding Serv. Award, 2009; S.C. Environmental Awareness Award, DNR, 2009; Natl.





Planning Award for Advancement Diversity & Social Change, 2015, Amer. Planning Assn.; Natl. Black Caucus of State Legislators Regional Legislator of the Year Award, 2015; 50th Anniversary Bridge Crossing Jubilee of Bloody Sunday, Selma-To-Montgomery March, Fruit of the Labor Award for Exemplary Public Serv., 2015; Revitalizing Vulnerable Comms. Champion Award, 2016; mem., Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church; prev. serv. in House Nov. 29, 2005–16.



**MOSS, Dennis Carroll** [R]—(Dist. No. 29, *Cherokee-Chester-York Cos.*)—Retired, S.C. Hwy. Patrol; residing at 306 Silver Cir., Gaffney; *b.* Jan. 13, 1954 in Union; *s.* the late James Edward and Mary Ivey Moss; *g.* Union High School, 1972; attended Spartanburg Methodist Coll.; S.C. Criminal Justice Academy; June 24, 1978 *m.* Janet Ellis, 1 child, Brandon Lindsay; mem.: Lions

Intl.; Sertoma Intl.; Gaffney #186 Masonic Lodge; Cherokee Shrine Club; Hejaz Shrine Temple; NRA; Cherokee Co. Econ. Dev. Bd.; United Way of Piedmont; Buford St. Methodist Church, lay member to Annual Conf.; mem., Bd. of Dirs.: Cherokee Co. Habitat for Humanity; Cherokee Co. Senior Citizens Center; Sportsmen's Caucus; Rural Caucus; prev. serv. in House 2007–16.



**MOSS, V. Stephen “Steve”** [R]—(Dist. No. 30, *Cherokee-York Cos.*)—Retired banker; residing at 104 Rains Rd., Blacksburg; *b.* Feb. 3, 1950 in Cherokee Co.; *s.* Winfred V. and Frances M. Moss; *g.* Clemson Univ., B.A., 1972; S.C. School of Banking, 1976; School of Banking of the South, LSU, 1984; Aug. 21, 1976 *m.* Cheryl C. Carlton, 3 children, Elizabeth M., Jessica M.,

and Emily M.; Pres., Cherokee Co. Chamber of Commerce, 1982, 1994; Pres., Gaffney Rotary, 1996; Chm., Cherokee Co. Recreation Dist., 1982–84; Cherokee Co. School Bd., 1990–94; Cherokee Co. Comm. Foundation Bd., 1995–04; S.C. Bd. of Educ., 1999–00; S.C. Banker's Assn. Bd., 2007–09; 2015 S.C. Farm Bureau Legislator of the Year; Volunteer Fireman, 43

years; Cherokee Co. Dev. Bd.; prev. serv. in House Apr. 28, 2009–16.

**MURPHY, Chris [R]**—(Dist. No. 98, *Dorchester Co.*)—Atty., Murphy Law Firm, LLC; residing at 4238 Persimmon Woods Dr., North Charleston; *b.* May 31, 1968 in Honolulu, Hawaii; *s.* the late Patrick J. and the late Barbara A. Murphy; *g.* The Citadel, B.A., 1990; Mississippi Coll., J.D., 1995; Aug. 6, 1994 *m.* Maité D., 2 children, Christopher A. and Jackson F.; founding mem., Summerville Miracle League, Summerville Rotary Club; Asst. Solicitor, First Judicial Circuit, 1996–01; Special Asst., U.S. Atty., Drug/Violent Crime Task Force, 1998–01; Dorchester Co. Council, 2002–10, Chm., 2005; mem., St. Paul's Episcopal Church; mil. serv.: SCARNG; prev. serv. in House 2011–16.



**NEWTON, Brandon Michael [R]**—(Dist. No. 45, *Lancaster-York Cos.*)—Staff, Univ. of S.C. Lancaster; residing at 2003 Hickory Dr., Lancaster; *b.* July 29, 1994 in Lancaster; *s.* Danny and Donna Newton; *g.* Univ. of S.C.-Lancaster, 2014, A.A., 2015, A.S., 2015; Univ. of S.C., B.A., 2016; single; Bd. mem., The Children's Council, Lancaster, 2012–; Chm., S.C. Fifth Congressional Dist. Rep. Party, 2014–16; Univ. of S.C.-Lancaster Student Body Pres., 2014–16; Chm., Lancaster Co. Rep. Party, 2015–16; Lay mem., Good Shepard United Methodist Church, 2015–.



**NEWTON, Wm. Weston J. [R]**—(Dist. No. 120, *Beaufort-Jasper Cos.*)—Atty. & Partner, Jones, Simpson & Newton, P.A.; residing at 83 Myrtle Island Rd., Bluffton; *b.* Feb. 22, 1967 in Greenville; *s.* Jourdan J. Macfie and the late Howard Newton; *g.* Washington & Lee Univ., B.A., 1989; Univ. of S.C., J.D., 1993; Apr. 25, 1998 *m.* Rose R. Buyck, 3 children, Reedy, William, and Eliza Rose; Order of Wig and Robe, Univ. of S.C. School of Law, 1993; Law Clerk, Hon. John H. Waller, Jr.,



Assoc. Justice, S.C. Supreme Court, Judge of the 12th Judicial Circuit, 1993–94; Law Clerk, Hon. C. Weston Houck, Chief U.S. Dist. Judge, Dist. of S.C., 1994–96; mem., Beaufort Co. Council, 1999–12, Chm., 2003–12; 2004, 40 Under 40 Top Young Bus. Professionals in Savannah/Hilton Head; Bd. mem., S.C. Assn. of Counties, 2005–10, 2nd VP, 2011, 1st VP, 2012; Best of Bluffton Best Atty. Award, 2007; Univ. of S.C. Bd. of Visitors, 2008–12; former Bd. mem.: Sunset Rotary Club; Volunteers in Medicine; Leadership Hilton Head/Bluffton; mem.: Beaufort Co. Bar Assn.; Hilton Head Bar Assn., Treas., 1997–98, Secy., 1998–99, Pres., 1999–01; Liberty Fellows Class of 2015; mem., Church of the Cross, 1996; prev. serv. in House 2013–16.



**NORRELL, Mandy Powers** [D]—(Dist. No. 44, Lancaster Co.)—Atty., residing in Lancaster; *b.* July 12 in Lancaster; *d.* the late Beverly B. and the late Carl R. Powers; *g.* Furman Univ., B.A., 1995, *cum laude*; Univ. of S.C. School of Law, J.D., 1997, *cum laude*; Mar. 18, 1995 *m.* Mitchell A. Norrell, 2 children, Powers Thaddeus and Emma Ross Isabella; Order of Wig and

Robe, Univ. of S.C., 1994–95; Order of the Coif, Univ. of S.C., 1995; Atty., Partner, Norrell and Powers Norrell, Attys. at Law; City Atty., City of Lancaster, 1999–12; Town Atty., Town of Kershaw, 2010–12; S.C. Bar; N.C. Bar; S.C. Fed. Courts; Fourth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals; Palmetto Citizens Against Sexual Assault, VC, 2008–; Univ. of S.C. School of Law Alumni Bd. of Dirs., 2003–12; Girl Scout Troop Leader, 2009–13; Dep. Minority Whip, 2012–14; Minority Caucus Treas., 2014–; Champion for Children Award, 2015; Liberty Fellows, 2015; mem., First Baptist Church, Lancaster; prev. serv. in House 2013–16.

**OTT, Russell L.** [D]—(Dist. No. 93, *Calhoun-Lexington-Orangeburg Cos.*)—Businessman; residing at 135 Ott Farm Trail, St. Matthews; *b.* Mar. 26; *s.* Harry L., Jr. and Linda Fleming Ott; *g.* Clemson Univ., B.A., 2000; Univ. of S.C., M.P.A., 2003; 2 children, Lawson Legare and Bryce Jameson; former Town Admin. for towns of Elloree, North, and Neeses; S.C. Farm Bureau, 2004–13; Med., Mil., Public & Municipal Affairs Com., 2014–; mem., Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church; prev. serv. in House Oct. 29, 2013–16.



**PARKS, Julia Anne** [D]—(Dist. No. 12, *Greenwood-McCormick Cos.*)—Mortician & Funeral Dir., Parks Funeral Home & Licensed Real Estate Agent; *b.* July 1, 1955 in Greenwood; *d.* Julia (Arnold) Parks and the late James Lloyd Parks, Jr.; *g.* Gupton-Jones School of Mortuary Science, 1977; Johnson C. Smith Univ., B.S., 1976; single; mem.: Greenwood City Council, 1988–96; Stop the Violence Com.; former mem.: COOL Bd.—Comm. Outreach Organized Learning; Budget Com. for United Way, 1996; Chamber of Commerce; Delta Sigma Theta Sor.; NAACP; Epsilon Nu Delta Mortuary Frat.; mem.: Organization of Concerned Citizens; Morris Chapel Baptist Church; prev. serv. in House 1997, 1999–16.



**PITTS, Michael Allen** [R]—(Dist. No. 14, *Greenwood-Laurens Cos.*)—Retired, Greenville Police; *b.* in Laurens; *s.* the late Joseph C., Jr. and the late Lois Lollis Pitts; *g.* Lander Univ., B.S.; *m.* Susan W. Slay, 3 children, Nolan, Clifton, and Della; VC, Laurens Co. Council; life mem.: NRA; Gun Owners of S.C.; past Pres., Natl. Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC); Other Funds Oversight; Lottery Oversight; Ag. Heads Salary & Benefits; Rural Infrastructure Authority; Rabun Creek Baptist Church; mil. serv.: USAR; prev. serv. in House 2003–16.



**POPE, Thomas E. “Tommy”**, Speaker *Pro Tempore* (for biography and picture see p. 84).



**PUTNAM, Joshua** [R]—(Dist. No. 10, *Anderson-Greenville-Pickens Cos.*)—Landscape Supvr., Planter’s Touch; residing at 114 Hapsewee Dr., Piedmont; *b.* Nov. 10, 1988; *s.* William and Laura Hyatt Putnam; *g.* North Greenville Univ., 2011, B.S.; Eagle Scout; Victory 2004 volunteer; North Greenville Univ. activities: Freshman Class Pres.; Student Body Pres., 2008; past Pres., North

Greenville Univ. Student Alumni Assn.; past Pres., Coll. Rep.; mem., Cross Country team; former Chm., S.C. Student Legis. Ways and Means Com.; former S.C. Student Legis. Speaker *Pro Tempore*; mem., Christ Church, Evangelical Presbyterian Church; prev. serv. in House Aug. 30, 2011–16.



**QUINN, Rick** [R]—(Dist. No. 69, *Lexington Co.*)—Owner & Pres., Mail Market Strategies & Campaign Consultant; residing at 115 John Preston Dr., Lexington; *b.* June 22, 1965 in Columbia; *s.* Richard M. and Ruth LeJeune Quinn; *g.* Univ. of S.C., 1994; July 13, 2002 *m.* Amy McRae Benck, 2 children, Caroline and Trace; Chap. Chm., S.C. Fed. of Co. Reps.; Alumni Dir., ATO Frat.; State

Chm., S.C. Fed. of Co. Reps.; House Majority Leader, 1999–04; mem.: Greater Cola. Chamber of Commerce; Lake Murray/Irmo Rotary Club; Chapin Sertoma Club; prev. serv. in House 1989–04, 2011–16.



**RIDGEWAY, Robert Lee III** [D]—(Dist. No. 64, *Clarendon-Sumter Cos.*)—Physician & Firefighter; residing at 117 N. Brooks St., Manning; *b.* Mar. 11, 1958 in Manning; *s.* Robert L., Jr. and Nettie Floyd Ridgeway; *g.* Univ. of S.C., M.D., 1988; May 23, 1978 *m.* Deborah Collins, 3 children, Margaret Victoria Ann, Robert Lee IV, and Caroline Bowman Ridgeway; Staff, S.C. State

Firefighters Assn., 1976–; Pee Dee Firefighter’s Assn., 1979–;

Clarendon Memorial Hosp., 1992–15; Clarendon Memorial Hosp., Chief of Obstetrics & Gynecology, 1992–04; Chief of Staff, Clarendon Memorial Hosp., 1998–02; HopeHealth, 2015–; USAR, 3270th Army Hosp.; Deacon, Manning First Baptist Church; prev. serv. in House 2013–16.

**RIVERS, Michael F., Sr.** [D]—(Dist. No. 121, *Beaufort-Colleton Cos.*)—Minister; residing at 734 Seaside Rd., St. Helena Island; *b.* Oct. 16, 1958 in Baltimore, Md.; *s.* Cleaver B. Johnson and Julia Boles (biological parents) and Harris and Ophelia Rivers (parents); *g.* DeVry Inst., Tech. Certificate, 1980; Tech. Coll. of Lowcountry, CAD & Drafting certificate, 2003; Claflin Univ., B.S., 2008; single; 3 children, Monica, Michelle, and Michael, Jr., 2 grandchildren; mem.: Beaufort Co. Ministerial Alliance; NAACP; Beaufort Co. School Bd., 1998–16; mil. serv.: USAF, 1976–78.



**RIVERS, Samuel, Jr.** [R]—(Dist. No. 15, *Berkeley-Charleston Cos.*)—Ordained Minister & Senior Pastor, The Voice of the Lord Intl. Ministries, Inc.; residing in Goose Creek; *b.* Feb. 23; *s.* Samuel II and Mary L. Rivers; Samuel Rivers Intl. Servs. LLC; Motivational Speaker; VC, Berkeley Co. Rep. Party; mem., Christian Intl. Ministries Network; Bd. mem., Medal of Honor Bowl Game; former Bd. mem., S.C. Foundation for Public Charter; former Congressman Tim Scott appointee to Social Security Adv. Com.; former Victory Chair for Berkeley Co. Rep. Party; prev. serv. in House 2013–16.



**ROBINSON-SIMPSON, Leola C.** [D]—(Dist. No. 25, *Greenville Co.*)—Retired Dir., Greenville Tech. Coll.; residing at 19 Prince Ave., Greenville; *b.* Sept. 28, 1944 in Belton; *d.* Clyde and Rosa Lee Coleman Clement; attended Shaw Univ., 1963; *g.* York Coll. of the City Univ. of New York (CUNY), B.A., 1975; Furman Univ., M.Ed., 1990; Brandeis



Univ., Graduate Certificate in Exec. Policy & Mgmt., 1993; Leadership Greenville, 1980; July 2006 *m.* Albert Simpson, Jr., 6 children, Dr. Aminah, Alvera, Basheer, Hassan, Shakir, and William; Dir., ESAA, Greenville Urban League, 1976–80; Dir., Chamber of Commerce/Private Industry Council, 1980–88; Comm. Greenville Housing Authority, 1983–88; School Bd. Trustee, Dist. 25, 1996–12; Appalachian Council of Govts., 1996–06; founder, Center for Educational Equity (CEE) Success Center, 2000–12; Author, *Black America Greenville County*, (series) Arcadia Publishing, 2007; Greenville Co. Humanitarian Award, 1996; NAACP Freedom Fighter Award, 2003; GCEC Women Making History Award, 2006; Soroptimist Intl. Women of Distinction Award, 2008; mem., Epsilon Iota Zeta Chap., Zeta Phi Beta Sor., Inc.; prev. serv. in House 2013–16.



**RUTHERFORD, James Todd** [D]—(Dist. No. 74, *Richland Co.*)—Atty.; residing at 2321 Lincoln St., Columbia; *b.* Oct. 10, 1970 in Columbia; *s.* Harry and Karen Rutherford; *g.* Howard Univ., B.A., 1992; Univ. of S.C., J.D., 1996; 2 children, J. Todd II “Ty” and Tripp Benjamin; Legis. Asst., Congressman Robin Tallon, 1992–93; Owner, 3 Tech Integrated Systems, 1993;

Asst. Solicitor/Special Prosecutor of Narcotic and Drug Cases, Fifth Solicitor’s Off., 1996–98; The Rutherford Law Firm, LLC, 1998–; Minority Leader, 2013–; Owner: 803 Trucking, LLC; WasteSouth, LLC; T.I.S. Consulting & Auto; Natl. Bd. mem., NAACP Special Contributions Fund; Bd. mem., Brookland Baptist Church; Comm. Credit Union; mem., S.C. Bar Assn.; prev. serv. in House 1999–16.



**RYHAL, Michael Q. “Mike”** [R]—(Dist. No. 56, *Horry Co.*)—Retired Utility Exec. & Electrical Engineer; residing at 8328 Juxa Dr., Myrtle Beach; *b.* Oct. 1, 1957 in Sharon, Pa.; *s.* Carl Q. and Mary Anne Ryhal; *g.* Geneva Coll., B.S., 1993; 1992 *m.* Carrie J., 3 children, Kaitlyn, Kristin, and Michaela; First Energy, 1977–05, Dir. of Industrial Relations, 1997–01; Dir. of

Operations JCP & L, 2001–05; Carolina Forest Rotary Club, 2012–14; Bus. Advocate Award, S.C. Chamber of Commerce, 2013; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Podiatric Med. Assn., 2014–15; S.C. BIPEC, 2014; Grand Strand Area Transportation Study Com., VC; Christ Community Church; prev. serv. in House 2013–16.

**SANDIFER, Bill [R]**—(Dist. No. 2, *Oconee-Pickens Cos.*)—Businessman; residing at 112 Cardinal Dr., Seneca; *b.* Feb. 21, 1945 in Aiken; *s.* the late William Edward, Jr. and the late Frances Harley Sandifer; *g.* Cincinnati Coll. of Mortuary Science, 1965; Nov. 6, 1981 *m.* Sandra Prater, 4 children, Wes, Lori, Will, and Jennifer; Pres.: S.C. Funeral Dirs. Assn., 1987; S.C. State Bd. of Funeral Serv., 1983; Seneca Chamber of Commerce, 1978; Chm., Bd. of Dirs.: Oconee Memorial Hosp., 1986–88; Fort Hill Natural Gas Authority, 1994; Champion of Housing Award, S.C. Home Builders, 1996–97; Hammer and Trowel Award by Home Builders Assn. of S.C., 1998; Natl. Rep. Legislator of the Year, 2000; Bd. of Dirs., Seneca Natl. Bank; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Funeral Dirs. Assn., 2000; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Cemetery Assn., 2002; Legis. Leadership Award, S.C. Tel. Assn., 2002; S.C. Guardian of Small Bus. Award, Natl. Fed. of Independent Bus., 2002; Asst. Majority Leader, 2002–04; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Realtors Assn., 2002; Legis. Award by Amer. Legion, Dept. of S.C., 2003; Hall of Fame Award, Seneca Chamber of Commerce, 2004; 2003 Distinguished Serv. Award, Home Builders Assn. of Greenville; Special Legis. Award, S.C. Funeral Dirs. Assn., for highest off. held by a mem. of the Assn.; Legislator of the Year, Manufactured Housing Inst. of S.C., 2009; Champion of Health Care, S.C. Med. Assn., 2009–; “Peas & Carrots” Award by Citizens for Sound Conservation for “Improving our Environmental & Economical Quality of Life”, 2010, 2012; 2010, 2012 & 2013 Sword & Mace Award by S.C. BIPEC; Legislator of the Year, S.C. Cable Assn., 2010; inducted into the S.C. Homebuilder’s Hall of Fame, 2010; past Chm., Energy & Environmental Com., Southern Legis. Conf.; 2013 & 2014 Golden Apple Award, Natl. Coalition for Public School Options; 2013





Paul Harris Fellow Award, Seneca Rotary Club; 2013 Outstanding Serv. Award, United Way; 2013 W. Mack Chamblee Quality of Life Award, S.C. Realtors; 2013–14 Legislator of the Year Award, Natl. Guard Assn. of S.C.; mem., Exec. Com. Southern States Energy Bd.; mil. serv.: SCARNG, 20 years, retired Maj.; prev. serv. in House 1995–16.



**SIMRILL, J. Gary** [R]—(Dist. No. 46, York Co.)—Businessman; residing at 1515 Alexander Rd., Rock Hill; *b.* May 29, 1966 in Rock Hill; *s.* the late T. Hugh, Jr. and Diane Belk Simrill; *g.* Winthrop Univ., B.S., 1991; Dec. 4, 1993 *m.* Mary Ruth Dobson, 3 children, Mallory Graham, Sarah Kate, and Joseph Dozier; first Rep. elected from Rock Hill; Chamber of Commerce; Kiwanis

Intl.; Distinguished Serv. Award, S.C. Chap. of Natl. Fed. of the Blind; *Who's Who in Amer. Politics*; *Who's Who in the South and Southwest*; mem., Westminster Presbyterian Church; prev. serv. in House 1993–16.



**SMITH, Garry R.** [R]—(Dist. No. 27, Greenville Co.)—Businessman; residing at 210 Foxhound Rd., Simpsonville; *b.* Mar. 4, 1957 in Aiken; *s.* J. Roland and Peggy Smith; *g.* Univ. of S.C.-Aiken, B.A., 1979; Univ. of S.C., M.P.A., 1983; Aug. 4, 1979 *m.* Brenda L. Harman, 2 children, Michael Grady and Dana Michelle; managing partner, Nin Tai Enterprises, LLC, 1995–; partner,

Burkhold Smith Planning & Mgmt., 1996–; Pres., Amer. Soc. of Public Admin., S.C. Chap., 1988–90; Admin., Bamberg Co., 1988–92; Pres., S.C. Mgrs., Admin. & Supvrs., 1991–92; City Admin., Simpsonville, 1992–95; Chm., S.C. City and Co. Mgmt. Assn. Com. on City Legis. Issues, 1993–94; Chm., Greenville Co. Chief Admin. Off. Group, 1995; Pres., Simpsonville Rotary Club, 1997–98; Pres., Simpsonville United Methodist Men's Ministry, 2003–06, 2013–14 Chm., Church Council, Simpsonville United Methodist Church; prev. serv. in House May 20, 2003–16.